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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : MAIER et al. Confirmation No.: 1708
Serial No. : 09/509,108
Filed : May 31, 2000
For : METHOD FOR PLAYING A RECORDING MEDIUM
Examiner : K. CHU
Group Art Unit : 2653 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on
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Atty's Signature

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Commissioner for Patents
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JAN 30 2004

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 12, 2003, reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested in view of the comments provided below.

REMARKS

Claims 5-9 remain pending in the above-referenced application and are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration.

Claims 5-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,982,727 to Kondo et al. ("Kondo"). Applicants disagree with this rejection because Kondo does not teach "converting the at least one address of the beginning of the title to a start time in the form of exactly one time unit." As seen in Figure 14, step 154, of Kondo, the Table of Contents (TOC) used in the Kondo invention stores addresses that are in the form of two time units, that is, in the form of minutes and seconds. Each address is expressed according to two time units: the first number is in minutes and the second one is in seconds. Moreover, Kondo in no way teaches the conversion of such address into a

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